more than a hundred L. T's., there seemed to be nothing to prevent the local Training College, which now trained about two dozen graduates and a handful of under-graduates, from undertaking the work of training teachers for the Elementary Schools also. Besides being a source of decided gain, the arrangement would give a uniform shape to the training of Elementary teachers, which was sadly lacking at present.

The expenditure for the local Training College itself seemed to be going up year by year. The latest sanction was for a European Vice-Principal. If a staff of Indian lecturers could produce systematically during the last three years of the existence of the College more than 90% of passes in the L. T. Examination, the public failed to see the need for a costly appointment with pay up to Rs. 750. Then again, the Instructor appointed for organising manual training in Travancore had become a permanent factor. In Mysore, a few years ago, when one was got down for the same purpose, he was asked to train a few Indians within four or five years and was, when that work was done and the period expired, relieved of his work. The Member did not know how many apprentices the local organiser had, within the last five years, trained and for what purpose his presence in the State was deemed indispensable for another 15 years on Rs. 500 a month. A little of economy in such and similar matters might enable the Government to start and maintain two Second Grade Colleges in the State.

(3) Nowhere was the Government's generosity more in evidence than in the Arts College at Trivandrum. The general public had every reason to doubt whether, consistently with efficiency of teaching, such a large number of hands on the staff of the College was necessary for some branches of study as they found there at present. A comparison with some of the most advanced Colleges in the Presidency demonstrated the needless superfluity of the staff in the Arts College at Trivandrum. The result of the superfluity of hands was that, while in many other Colleges, the number of hours of lecturing for each class was 15 a week on an average, it was an exception in the local College to see any lecturer doing work for more than 12 hours a week and some of them were reported to have less than 10 hours of lecturing work a week. In the light of those figures, it was no wonder that the Government was spending for Departmental Colleges alone about one-eighth of the total expenditure of 14 lakhs of rupees and odd for the departmental institutions as a whole.

(4) Where there was at one time only one Board for School Leaving Certificates for two or three years, there were at present two separate boards (one for the Secondary and the other for the Elementary).

(5) In connection with the building for one School more than two lakhs of rupees was sanctioned, while others of similar status were huddling their pupils almost to the point of suffocation in their dilapidated sheds.

(6) For the Caste Hindu Hostel at Trivandrum, the Government as a mark of its charitable management was meeting a portion of its annual expenditure, in addition to the initial outlay, while in the Victoria Hostel at Madras, a portion of the income was laid by every year.

The Member therefore requested that more careful adjustment in the educational budget and greater attention to the many desirable reforms had to be enforced in the future working of the Education Department of the State.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

116. Suggestions for improvement in the Educational systems of Travancore.

Mr. K. M. Mamman Mappilla (Member, T. I. C., Thiruvalla) said that, though Primary Education was free in the State, the people were not able to reap the benefits of the measure, as thousands of boys were refused admission into the Elementary Schools for want of accommodation. He had ascertained that the number of boys who were denied admission in 1089 were about 12,000 in the Northern Range and 15,000 in the Central Range, and, under present conditions,

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their number must be increasing from year to year. The Government had themselves recognised, in the Adiministration Report for 1089, that the supply of buildings was quite unequal to the demand. In the present condition of the finances, it would not be practicable for the Government to supply the demand in the near future and find the means of admitting *all* the children that came to their doors for instruction. It was therefore imperative that liberal inducements should be held out to Managers of Private Schools to start many more Elementary Schools in all parts of the country.

He next pointed out the need for bettering the position of Headmasters of Higher Grade Elementary Schools. They were now given uniformly a pay of Rs. 20 plus an allowance of Rs. 10, irrespective of the importance of the schools, the qualifications of the headmasters, their service or merit. He suggested that the allowance should be abolished and the headmasters put into two grades on fixed pay.

The next point touched upon by him was the absence of any rules for regulating the selection of Elementary School Teachers for training. The selection at present depended on the whims and caprices of the Inspectors.

Dewan.—Dr. Bishop tells me that the matter is engaging his attention. What principles would you suggest?

The Member said in reply that his object was only to point out the evils of the present system and that he would leave it to the Government to formulate such rules as would tend to limit the discretion of the Inspectors.

Referring to the suggestion of the other Members that the number of Inspectors of Schools should be reduced to one, he said that he could not bring himself to agree in that view. There *was* enough work for all the Inspectors and all that was necessary was for the superior officers to get proper work out of them. He was also against the transfer of the H. G. E. Schools to the control of the Assistant Inspectors.

Lastly, the Member said that the method of calculations prescribed in the Code for fixing the Government grants to private schools was unduly hard. As in the case of the Departmental Schools, the Managers had also to provide buildings and attend to their annual maintenance. It was therefore necessary that a certain amount should be set off as interest on the capital outlay and that a moiety of the balance should be fixed as the Government grant. In conclusion, he requested that the aided schools should be treated in that as well as other matters with much greater sympathy and consideration.

Dewan's reply.—The Member's suggestion for increasing the number of Aided Elementary Schools will be referred to the Director for remarks. His other representations are noted.

117. Certain difficulties experienced by the public in the present educational system.

Mr. C. P. Kochukunju Pillai (Member, Kottarakara taluk) brought to notice the following difficulties in the present educational system and suggested the remedies for the same :—

(1) The number of elementary schools was quite insufficient to admit all the children that sought admission. It would not be possible for the people to put up many more schools of their own. In his own taluk, about 83 private schools had already been started by the people. It was therefore time that the Government should find some means of remedying the growing evil. He suggested that any savings in sanctioned P. W. Estimates should be utilised for putting up more buildings for Elementary Schools.

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